

Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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We give prominence to the following communication from Brother Cassel, not because he writes "nice things" about us, but because he sets forth facts that are vital to the Brethren church:

I have just read this number of the EVANGELIST; it is pre-eminently a college number, and is all the better for being such.

First the editor gives three pages of well written matter on the subject; next Professor L. L. Garber's paper covers three more pages. Next Sister Gnagey's able and practical paper, and last but not least Professor Miller occupies a whole page with very important, vital matter. As is well remarked by Brother Gnagey, our college must solve the human side of the missionary problem of the Brethren church.

As a member of the Mission Board I fail to see the way open to enter upon foreign mission work for the time being, as the sending out of a party and equipping of a station means much more money than there is now in sight, but if we sustain our college so young men and women can study what the Bible teaches on missions and what history teaches, some of them in our schools as well as others will become so filled with the importance of the work and their responsibility in it that they will go whether the church sends them or not.

I am happy to state that our World-Wide Missionary Society has taken two of the endowment bonds. Let other societies thru-out the church do the same, so that we will get this great need of the church supplied.

To prosper in this day of printer's ink we must have a literature; we can not get that without education. To maintain the doctrine of our church we must have a literature that upholds them; we can not get that without an institution that explicitly teaches them; hence not only progress depends on education but simple maintenance makes it necessary. I candidly believe from present observations that without a well sustained school our church would be less in numbers and spiritual power twenty-five years hence than she is today.

We are at present in an era of prosperity. Most farmers have good crops and a good market for them. It would be well pleasing to God, the giver of all good, if by way of thank-offering, many who are in comfortable circumstances, would give practical expression of their gratitude by taking one or more of the endowment bonds. Harvest home meetings are fitting and graceful, but harvest home giving would count for more for God and the world. To be just right we ought to have both the meetings and the giving. JACOB C. CASSEL.

Change of Date

The date of National Conference has been changed from August 22-27, to August 29-September 3. Please note change.

Religion in Service

"And Martha served." Sometimes she was "cumbered about much serving," a bustling, busy, tidy house-keeper, one of those who can never rest, and can never do enough, whose hospitality is boundless, and whose excessive anxiety to make her guests comfortable makes them uncomfortable. The table must be so loaded with dainties that the weariness and toil of preparation is manifest to the thoughtful observer; and if that observer is such a one as Martha's guest, to whom the spiritual things of life are supreme, his thought will whisper the gentle reproof of the Master: "Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things." Nevertheless there was a beauty in her spirit which these words were not intended to obscure. Mary, the idealist, forgetting the material life and absorbed in the spiritual, having but one thought, to drink in the words of the Master, was a type the nearest to his heart; but Martha, barring the care and anxiety of her much serving, and lacking only to mingle the repose and moderation of faith in her busy temperament, was also of a type which in all ages of the church has been priceless and indispensable. Without the Marthas of our Christian civilization, there would be no Christian civilization. With a ready hand for every good work, with that wonderful gift of doing, with that eagerness of practical service which characterizes them, they are the joy and comfort of every pastor, of every world lifter, of every organizer of good works, of every enterprise for the practical betterment of the unfortunate. May their tribe increase. After all, the Marthas are a kind of special providence to the Marys, lost in contemplation, having no genius for affairs, helpless creatures so far as the stern practicalities of the world are concerned; and truly are they special providences to those followers of the Lord who go from place to place with his message. "And a certain woman named Martha received him into her house." Is not their reward sure? Admirable genius of the religion of service, the generations will arise up and call thee blessed.